

There has been floating around for some time a list of "Seventeen Points of the True Church" that was compiled by a group of people studying the Bible as students (or servicemen, or scientist), based on the church Jesus established as described in the New Testament. According to the story (of which there are conflicting versions), when these people broke up and went on about their lives (after college, after the war, whatever), each of them searched diligently among the various religions for the "true church" according to the list of points. Many years later, they all discovered that each of them had independently found... Guess! Yes, the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints! Oh, isn't that a heart-warming testimonial? Here is the list.

17 Points of the True Church of Christ

- 1) Christ organized the Church (Eph 4:11-14)
- 2) The true church must bear the name of Jesus Christ (Eph 5:23)
- 3) The true church must have a foundation of Apostles and Prophets (Eph 2:19-20)
- 4) The true church must have the same organization as Christ's Church (Eph 4:11-14)
- 5) The true church must claim divine authority (Heb 5:4-10)
- 6) The true church must have no paid ministry (1 Cor 9:16-18; Acts 20:33-34; John 10:11-13)
- 7) The true church must baptize by immersion (Matt 3:13-16)
- 8) The true church must bestow the gift of the Holy Ghost by the laying on of hands (Acts 8:14-17)
- 9) The true church must practice divine healing (Mark 3:14-15)
- 10) The true church must teach that God and Jesus are separate and distinct individuals (John 17:11; 20:17)
- 11) The true church must teach that God and Jesus have bodies of flesh and bone (Luke 23:36-39; Acts 1:9-11; Heb 1:1-3)
- 12) The officers must be called by God (Heb 4:4; Ex 28:1; 40:13-16)
- 13) The true church must claim revelation from God (Amos 3:7)
- 14) The true church must be a missionary church (Matt 28:19-20)
- 15) The true church must be a restored church (Acts 3:19-20)
- 16) The true church must practice baptism for the dead (1 Cor 15:16&29)
- 17) "By their fruits ye shall know them." (Matt 7:20)